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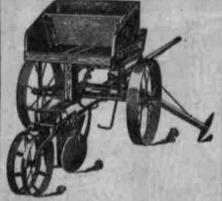
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## AGRONOMY

Edited by Prof. J. C. Hogenson. A. C. U.

#### THE ERADICATION OF WEEDS.

One of the great problems which confronts the farmers of Utah as well as most other states at the present time, is the eradication of weeds which tend to overrun the land and destroy the cultivated crops. Some weeds are easily gotten rid of while others are very persistent and methods in order to be successful, must be suited to the conditions and the

Weeds are naturally divided into three great classes: Annuals, Biennials, and Perennials.

Annuals are those weeds which grow from, and mature their seed each year. They may usually be brought under subjection by preventing seed production; the use of clean seed. If the weeds are already on the land, disc early in the fall so as to cover the seed lightly, which will cause them to germinate, then plow deeply.

Biennials are those which require two years to produce seed. The seed produces a plant the first year but seed is not produced until the second year. These weeds may usually be prevented from becoming troublesome by the same means as used for annual weeds.

Perennials are those which grow from year to year and are the most troublesome weeds we have. Not only must the production of seed be prevented but the underground portion must also be destroyed. The root stocks may be dug up and removed where the area is small Chemicals may be applied so that they will come in contact with the plant. The root stocks may be starved by preventing any development of leaves or other parts above ground. Most roots may be killed by exposing them to the sun in summer and to the action of freezing in winter. Weed seeds retain their vitality for a long time so that when buried they may infest the land from year to ly practiced in grain growing secyear as they are brought nearer to tions are to a large extent responsithe surface by cultivation. Most ble for the weeds. Use in rotation seeds plowed under to the depth of corn or potatoes two years, grass or ordinary plowing will not germinate. alfalfa three years, and grain two

periment Station, found that a large number of troublesome weeds could be controlled by spraying with a solution of iron sulphate when the plants are quite young. The solution is made by emptying a 100 pound sack of iron sulphate into an ordinary 50 gallon barrel. Then fill the barrel with water and stir until a solution is made.

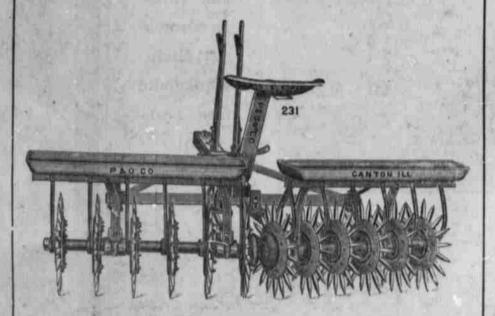
Prof. Moore states that in an experiment, carried on by him, a strip thirty feet in width was left unsprayed. On June 18 this strip was filled with mustard and other weeds in full bloom, so that the grain could not be seen, while the field on either side which had been sprayed, was practically free. The iron sulphate will not injure the grain or alfalfa. !t costs about eleven dollars per ton; one hundred pounds will spray an

Prof. Wilson of the Minnesota Sta-Station, has made some interesting observations on weed seeds. Out of 5000 shephard's purse seeds planted one inch deep, 3240 plants were produced, the same number planted three inches deep produced no plants. Wild mustard seed planted one inch deep, produced 730 plants from 1000 seeds, the same number of seeds planted three inches deep, produced 290 plants, and planted five inches deep no plants.

Prof. Waldron claims that wild our seeds are practically dead after being buried twenty months; shephard's purse seed when buried fiftysix months.

Prof. Willson of the Binnesota S.4tion, claims that a 15 per cent solution of sulphuric acid is very effective in destroying weeds, though it is rather expensive. He found that thorough cultivation and proper ro tation of crops the most effective method. He suggests that part of the farm be taken at a time and planted to corn or other cultivated crops and then cultivate thoroughly. "The careless methods of farming general-Prof. Moore of the Wisconsin Ex- years, making a seven year rotation.

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